Are you coming to the Summer festival?
夏

Right... I didn't go since I was in grade school.
Which means I've never gone with you.
Yeah, it was always right after club activities, so it was annoying.

We have to prepare for our exams, don't we?

Still...

Then it's decided.
I want to see the fireworks.

Chapter 20

あの娘にキスと白百合を

A Kiss and a White Lily for Her

缶乃
Canno

Sorry for the wait!
You're cute
She's cute
Cute
Moe, you look so good in that..
I look shabby compared to you.
I'M GONNA CHANGE !!
To my normal clothes!
We don't have the time for that
IT'S YOUR FAULT, YOU'RE TOO PERFECT!!
You're saying that again..

I know that you've dressed up specially for my sake.
You're cuter than any girl I've seen today

I've been neglecting it a bit, lately.
Is it just me or did your hair grow?

So hold yourself straight
Don't take photos
Come on, you're just cheating

AH!
Oh, good id.

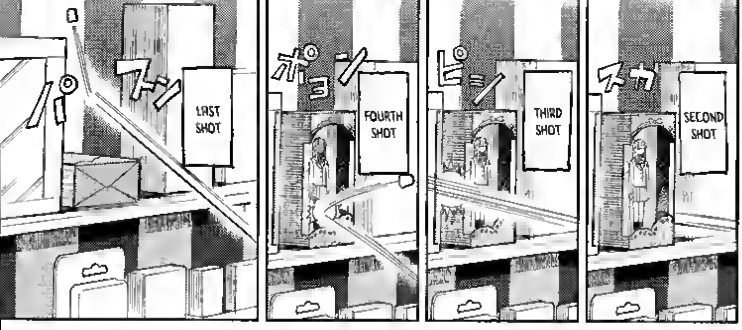
By the way
Our school's concert band is performing on the stage over there. Wanna go see them?

Yep, she's lying.
Err, actually, I'd prefer to avoid crowds, for now.
Why? I want to go...
Err... Well...
I want you to be the only one to see me in my yukata, tonight.
IT MIGHT BE 20% TRUE...
BUT THAT WOULD BE THE FIRST TIME SHE CARED ABOUT THAT
SOMETHING'S OFF WITH HER, TODAY.
Say, Mizuki...
Did you decide on your career plans, in the end?
Hmmm...

Moe, you want to be a physio-therapist, right?
Yeah... Ideally, I want a job related to sports
Err, in any case...
There's one thing I've decided
If... If you're fine with it, I...
would like
SIIIS!!

Sob...
What's wrong? Are you lost?
07
What's your name?
Rio
And who did you come with?
With my big sister But she and the others disappeared.
There must be a head office somewhere, we can take her there.
Yeah Come on, Rio
No
No

So you want that doll?
She may have been distracted by it and lost the others
Alright. Let me handle this.
HUH?!
08
FIRST SHOT
She won't move if we don't get this doll.
Moe, don't get too carried away...
Her parents might scold us.


パ
アン
LAST SHOT
ポン
FOURTH SHOT
ピン
THIRD SHOT
スカ
SECOND SHOT

じわ…
Sorry, you have to make it fall behind
Ou-hm

Even if I can't do it
She can, you can be sure of it!
I JUST KNEW IT WOULD END UP LIKE THIS!

I'm a total newbie at shooting booths though
Come on, you have to show your cool side to this little girl
That's just reckless...
Uh... Mister, another round.

You got it on your first try, you're awesome!
Thank you!!
Isn't she?
He
he

I'm always third or fourth in races.
Why am I so slow, even though my sis is always first?

And she runs super fast too
My big sis too can run very fast!

It's true for both you and your sister.
True, it's alway nice to be first
But even if you don't win, what matters is to become someone better than you were yesterday

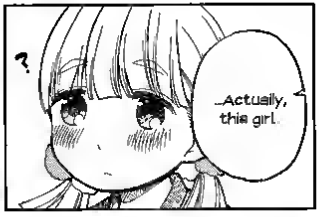
Okay, next time I'll give you advice to run faster
Yay!!

I don't really know how to say it...
You don't get it...? I guess you don't...

?

Yui-chi-chan
Don't you think she looks like Yui?
HUH?! ERR... YEAH, MAYBE?!
(former) president of the club

I'd like to meet her
Is your sister into track racing, by any chance?


?
...Actually, this girl

It would hardly be surprising
Maybe the girls are all already here.

what are you hiding from me?
OKAY! I'M GONNA TALK!!
I see.
Yu and the others invited you to come with the club.
But you lied so that you could be with me...and now you don't want to bump into them?
Yes, I'm sorry...
Lying is bad!
Why even lie to them? You could have just said that you were going with me.
Yeah... I could've done that...
But then, they would have proposed to bring you along, and I wouldn't have been able to refuse.

So I didn't want you to say you were coming with the whole club
I really wanted to be alone with you.
It had to be only between you and me.
14
Just try to lie a bit better than that.
I went as far as lying...
Then I'll try to keep a low profile, too.
It's true that you're not very good at turning people down.
...Okay, I guess you had a good reason for that

Well, I'm listening.
What is it?
because I absolutely wanted you to listen to what I have to say

I can't say it here.
Is it that embarrassing?
Yeah, no, well, erm.

Anyway, we have to find Rio's sister first, right?!
Ah, you're right
Let's go, then

I'VE KNOWN MIZUKI LONG ENOUGH TO GUESS WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT
SHE "ABSOLUTELY WANTED ME TO LISTEN"?

I would like to enter the same university as you...
You see, I thought thoroughly about it and,

Yep. It has to be that.
All that's happened lately
I CAN MORE OR LESS SEE THE BIG PICTURE
EXCEPT WITH ALL THAT'S HAPPENED LATELY, SHE'S A BIT ASHAMED TO SAY IT...

It's getting more and more crowded.
Yeah

Isn't that our senpais, over there?
Ah, you're right.

Even those who left for another university came back here for today
...Although a lot of people chose Seiran University in the end.

I guess we'd better not.
Let's not get too close to them just in case

Teaching might be a good job

I see

Yeah
...There's an education department in Seiran, right?

What, becoming a teacher? Oh no! That just crossed my mind...
...Was that what you wanted to talk about?

Hum.. I'm not too sure yet, but...
So you're gonna stay in Seiran?

Probably

WHAT
"Might be"... I may be taking this too lightly
Rio, what do you want to do when you grow up?
I wanna be a pastry chef!
DID SHE SAY?
Oh yeah, cakes are delicious, aren't they?

I'm way too conceited, aren't I.
Ah!
that even if she hesitated, she would always choose to stay by my side.
I was certain
Unlike you, I don't have any clear goals or talents
So for now, I'll just aim for what I can reach.
Isn't that the head office, over there?
RIO!!
SIS!!

So that "big sister" was you, huh?
(Bulls-eye)
Well, it's actually my sister's daughter

Why are you two here?!
Wait, what?!
Don't run around on your own, geez...

Err, actually...

Do you wanna come?
We have reserved a spot to see the fireworks...
It's about to start...

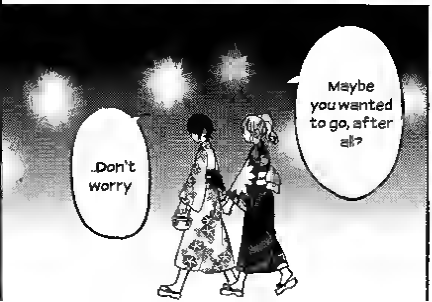
Aw, you should have told us that you were coming

Sorry, Yui... Actually...

Mizuki has already reserved me for the night
Maybe next time

Y-Yeah, exactly!
Really sorry!!

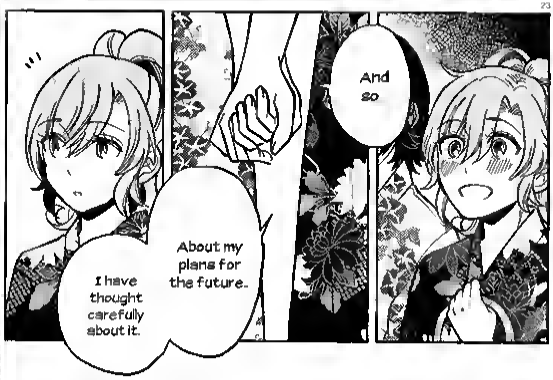
Thank you, Moe
I don't know what I would do without you


Maybe you wanted to go, after all?
..Don't worry

But you'd better show me the best spot in the world while you're at it

Leave it to me.

Moe...


I have thought carefully about it.
About my plans for the future.
And so

Let's live together.
I thought about renting an apartment...
Maybe not during university, but once we've become a bit more adult...
I want you to live by my side
I want you to share your happiness with me
I want to make you happy
That's the thing I wish for the most in the future
1年後。

I expected you. to say something embarrassing.
I had seen it coming
But I didn't expect that..
So-Sorry, I'm just getting excited on my own!

So...
Can you promise me...?
look
look

Oh, did you cut your hair?
Huh? Well, yeah.
I cut it yesterday
Oh, sorry
But it suits you. You're cute like this
Thank you.
Almost 6pm
Should we go home?
Yeah

where will we go next?
つづく 次回最終回!! 4月号 2月27日(土)発売!!